

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 19, 2001

SENATE BILL

No. 1086

Introduced by Senator Alarcon

February 23, 2001

~~An act to add Article 6 (commencing with Section 43875) to Chapter 4 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to air pollution, and making an appropriation therefor.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1086, as amended, Alarcon. ~~Air pollution: public transit bus fleets: pilot program~~ *liquefied natural gas: production.*

(1) Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in conjunction with the State Air Resources Board, to carry out a program of technology development and financial assistance to expand the use of methanol fuel as a means of reducing air pollution, assuring the state's energy security, and increasing the competitiveness of fuel markets.

This bill would require the commission to implement a grant program, that would include matching fund criteria, to fund the development of equipment necessary to produce or accelerate the production of liquefied natural gas from solid waste landfills for use as transportation fuel.

(2) The bill would appropriate \$15,000,000 from the General Fund to the commission for purposes of the bill.

~~(1) Existing law grants primary responsibility for the control of air pollution from vehicular sources to the State Air Resources Board. Existing law also authorizes the state board to adopt motor vehicle emission standards and motor vehicle specifications.~~

~~This bill would require the state board to develop and adopt, by regulation, a pilot program to assist local governments to begin utilizing low emission or alternative fuels. The bill would also require the pilot program to incorporate technologies that assist disabled passengers enter and exit urban buses used in the pilot program.~~

~~(2) The bill would appropriate an unspecified amount from the General Fund to the state board for purposes of the bill.~~

Vote: ²/₃. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1.—Article 6 (commencing with Section 43875) is~~
2 *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
3 *following:*
4 *(a) Many of the state's air quality management districts have*
5 *adopted programs to reduce emissions from heavy-duty engines as*
6 *a means of achieving health-based air quality standards and to*
7 *reduce exposure to toxic air contaminants.*
8 *(b) The use of alternative fuel such as natural gas offers an*
9 *immediate opportunity to reduce emissions from heavy-duty*
10 *trucks.*
11 *(c) The recent increase in natural gas prices, coupled with*
12 *increased demand from energy generators, present serious*
13 *obstacles for both public and private fleet operators that have been*
14 *required or encouraged to convert to natural gas.*
15 *(d) There is a critical need to expand natural gas supplies both*
16 *for electrical energy generation and for use as a clean*
17 *transportation fuel.*
18 *(e) California's solid waste landfills offer an immediate and*
19 *significant source of affordable methane that can be converted to*
20 *liquefied natural gas for use in heavy-duty vehicles.*
21 *(f) New demand for methane-produced fuel will encourage*
22 *improvements in the recovery of landfill gas and may significantly*
23 *reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*
24 *(g) Grants to fund a number of pilot projects will advance the*
25 *commercialization of landfill gas treatment equipment and*
26 *accelerate the production of liquefied natural gas from the state's*
27 *solid waste landfills.*

1 SEC. 2. (a) The sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000)
2 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the State Energy
3 Resources Conservation and Development Commission to be
4 expended to develop equipment necessary to produce or accelerate
5 the production of liquefied natural gas from solid waste landfills
6 for use as a transportation fuel. The commission shall adopt
7 guidelines governing the implementation of the grant program in
8 conformance with this section.

9 (b) The grant program guidelines are not subject to the
10 requirements of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of
11 Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The
12 guidelines shall do all of the following:

13 (1) Establish criteria for selecting pilot projects to receive
14 funding for purposes of this section.

15 (2) Establish matching fund criteria to ensure that entities that
16 receive funds pursuant to this section match the amount of any
17 grant funds awarded to the entity.

18 (3) Establish appropriate audit procedures to ensure that grant
19 funds are expended in a manner consistent with this section. added
20 to Chapter 4 of Part 5 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety
21 Code, to read:

22
23 Article 6. — Alternative Fuel Vehicles
24

25 43875. — (a) The state board shall develop and adopt, by
26 regulation, a pilot program to assist local governments to begin
27 utilizing low emission or alternative fuels.

28 (b) The pilot program described in subdivision (a) shall
29 incorporate technologies that assist disabled passengers enter and
30 exit urban buses used in the pilot program.

31 SEC. 2. The sum of _____ dollars (\$_____) is hereby
32 appropriated from the General Fund to the State Air Resources
33 Board to develop the pilot program specified in Article 6
34 (commencing with Section 43875) of Chapter 4 of Part 5 of
35 Division 6 of the Health and Safety Code.